Media Advisory

Tuesday, April 22, 2003

Contact: Ricardo Lara (916) 319-2050 Cathy Lavín (619) 246-5089

LATINO CAUCUS SHOWCASES CALIFORNIA-MEXICO ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION DURING EARTH WEEK

Sacramento, Calif.-Each year, Earth Day is observed around the United States as a demonstration of the nation's concern for our natural environment. This year, Earth Week observations in Sacramento will include a celebration of a unique collaboration between California and Mexico to protect the Sea of Cortés, one of the planet's true natural treasures.

The California Latino Legislative Caucus, in conjunction with, The San Diego Natural History Museum the California Latino Superintendents Association and The Nature Conservancy invite you to attend and report on a special event to celebrate conservation efforts in the Sea of Cortés.

On Wednesday, April 23rd, a reception and screening of the IMAX film, *Ocean Oasis*, will be held at the Esquire IMAX Theater, located at 1211 K Street in Sacramento. The reception begins at 6:00 p.m. with a brief presentation at 7:00 p.m., followed by the film at 7:30p.m.

In addition to watching a breathtakingly beautiful film that has thrilled audiences all over the world, you will have the opportunity to cover a story of tremendous importance. Did you know that the Sea of Cortés...

- ...contains one-third of the world's total marine mammal species and 875 species of fish?
- ...provides nesting sites and migratory habitat for hundreds of bird species, and breeding grounds for sea lions and marine turtles?
- ...is home to species that are found nowhere else in the world?

Available for interviews at the event will be Assembly Majority Floor Leader Marco Firebaugh, chairman of the Latino Legislative Caucus, other members of the Caucus, officials of the Mexican government, representatives of PRONATURA, Mexico's oldest conservation organization, and producers of the film, *Ocean Oasis*.